

THATCHER SETS UP POTASH MONOPOLY

By JEFF GOODMAN
and RAY DAVIE

Premier Ross Thatcher's recent interventions in the potash industry clearly prove that he is no supporter of free enterprise.

Thatcher's plans to impose a floor price and production rationing on Saskatchewan's potash producers mean that he will use his powers to ensure a monopoly arrangement for the industry.

American potash producers operating in Saskatchewan have been competing so fiercely with each other and with American producers in New Mexico that some companies in both groups have been unable to maintain profitable price levels.

Thatcher has decided to help them all out by controlling the market for the U.S. companies. He will announce specific regulations in two weeks.

By getting together under Thatcher's protective wing, the major producers that are American-owned will no longer have to worry about their sales.

The people who will have to worry are American farmers, whose fertilizer costs will go up; potash mine workers in Saskatchewan, who could be put out of work; and Canadian-owned potash companies, which could be closed out of the newly—"ordered" market.

In the past weeks, Thatcher has said that producers of Saskatchewan potash probably will not be allowed to sell their product at less than \$18.75 a ton. This is nearly \$8 more than some of the companies in Saskatchewan have been charging.

All companies would have to sell at the floor price, even if they could afford to sell at less.

The pro-rationing plan would "guarantee" a fixed share of the total market -- that is, a fixed volume of sales -- to each producing company. This is accomplished by Thatcher prohibiting all the companies from trying to get bigger shares of the market than they are allocated.

In addition, Thatcher plans to put some limit--



The Alwingsal potash mine in Lanigan. With Premier Thatcher now running a monopoly for the whole potash industry, profits for Alwingsal and the other producers will be safer.

not yet specified -- on total potash production in the province, most of which goes to the U.S.

The limit could be as low as 60% of previous production. It would affect various mines differently.

These three arrangements effectively end competition in the North American potash industry. But competition among the companies is the only thing under capitalism that protects the interests of the consumer.

The arrangements make it less likely that Canadian-owned potash firms, just beginning to operate fully, will be able to survive. The market is already dominated by American firms, and the arrangements will make it even more difficult for the Canadian companies to gain a foot-hold.

Finally, by limiting total production, the arrangements could eliminate jobs in Saskatchewan. Some companies (most likely Canadian) may not make enough profit with limited sales to stay in business.

In fact, the total industry has been operating at more than 60%.

Thatcher recently begged newspaper reporters not to

tell the public that he was going to be operating a monopoly. He was asked at a press conference if his rationing and price-fixing measures didn't constitute monopoly actions; he told the reporters to keep quiet on this issue.

Thatcher was afraid for a good reason, because the

whole regulation plan was designed for and with American corporations.

Thatcher's plan grows out of the rough competition which American companies mining in Saskatchewan have been giving to other American companies operating only in New Mexico. This state has the great majority of U.S. potash reserves.

The large American companies in New Mexico complained to the U.S. Treasury Department early this year that "Canadian" potash was being "dumped" on the American market.

What this really means is that one French-German firm -- Alwingsal -- and three other American firms -- International Minerals and Chemical Corporation, Potash Company of America and Kalium Chemicals -- were selling on the U.S. market at a price below what the New Mexico operators could afford.

The dumping case involved exports to the U.S. of about \$35 million. Total Saskatchewan exports to the U.S. have been about \$63 million per year.

Canada presently supplies about two-thirds of U.S. potash needs; about 60% of Saskatchewan potash goes to the U.S.

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POLICE IMPLICATED IN SECOND BEATING

RCMP are nearing completion of a second investigation into an assault charge against four members of Regina City Police, The PRAIRIE FIRE has learned.

Two weeks ago, it was revealed the RCMP had taken over investigation of a charge by a 23-year-old Regina man who claimed he was beaten by police and left in a ditch on Oct. 16.

The PRAIRIE FIRE has now learned that a Montreal man has identified four City Policemen who he claims beat him in the week preceding the Carl Harris assault.

The French Canadian, who was brought back to Regina by the RCMP, has been under

constant guard by the force since arriving here about one week ago, sources said.

It is expected that charges will be laid soon by the Attorney General's Department in both cases.

In the Harris case, RCMP obtained a search warrant about a week ago and confiscated tapes of Police radio transmissions for the night of the alleged beating.

In his statement on the events of Oct. 16, Mr. Harris said the car that picked him up radioed back to Police Headquarters once before heading out to the country, where the beating took place.

EDITORIAL:

This week's issue of The PRAIRIE FIRE contains three stories about United States international corporations. It is appropriate to say a few words about how they are all related.

The story about the potash industry describes the kind of methods by which American corporations force domestic firms out of business right in their own country.

It describes the political "luck" which American companies can have with such friends as Ross Thatcher (or is it just luck?).

And the analysis clearly demonstrates the operation of monopoly on an international scale--commonly called a cartel. Under these conditions there is no longer any competition, and the ones who suffer are consumers and workers.

The article describing NDP reception of the Watkins report ultimately goes back to a well-documented study of the extent of American domination of the Canadian economy. Melville Watkins' more recent statement points out that Canada (Saskatchewan) means nothing more to U.S. corporations than the opportunity to make huge profits on cheap natural resources.

Watkins and his supporters were asking the NDP to do something about the situation. The NDP is the only party that could even claim to represent socialism and nationalism. Apparently against the wishes of many Western Canadian delegates, the NDP rejected Watkins' demand.

Finally, the lengthy history of Vietnam illustrates what can happen to countries that want independence and an end to the domination of foreign companies. Vietnam and the rest of Southeast Asia have crucial natural resources and a large population. Their location is militarily very strategic for the U.S., and they are essential to U.S. corporations maintaining a "sphere of influence" in Asia.

The Vietnamese threw out the French and their plantations and puppets, only to find the Americans right on the heels of the French. Since then, this backward nation of about 30 million has fought the world's military juggernaut to a standstill because its people were united in wanting self-determination.

The war has clearly become abhorrent to growing numbers of North Americans and to people all over the globe. Thousands of American soldiers have deserted and come to Canada; more thousands of American males have come to Canada to escape the draft.

A massive anti-war movement like this, with all its aspects, does not happen without good reason. Nor are more and more Canadians angry about their country being exploited without good reason.

But will anything be done about it? If not by the NDP and the Premier, then by whom? How far will people go to regain the freedom which foreign profiteers are destroying. Could Canada become another Vietnam?

To find answers to these questions we would have to discover the ways in which our interests are the same and act on the basis of this unity.

U.S. imperialism hurts us in different ways depending on which group we are in, but it hurts nevertheless.

What all Canadians share is a common domination by international corporations. But only if we accept and build upon this common interest is there a chance of achieving what the Vietnamese are achieving.

THE PRAIRIE FIRE

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PROFITS RUN NEWSPAPERS

That it is impossible for the news industry to be socially responsible as long as it depends on advertisers for its revenue has been shown once again in the civic elections of last week.

A case in point is the statement by the city editor of the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, when he said that interest in the civic elections was not high enough to justify extensive coverage.

But a really thorough analysis of each candidate's platform would force the candidates to deal with issues of relevance to the voters, which would raise public interest. Surely the Star-Phoenix's policy is part of the cause, not the result, of apathy.

But thorough analysis is usually controversial, and a controversial newspaper has difficulty holding its advertisers. So a private newspaper becomes caught in the bind between its social responsibility and its profitability.

INTERNATIONAL MOBILIZATION AGAINST THE WAR IN VIETNAM

JOIN THE TORCHLIGHT PARADE

DEMAND U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM
AND AN END TO CANADIAN COMPLICITY IN THE WAR NOW!

Saturday, Nov. 15, 1969

Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Labour Temple, 1915 Osler St.

March through downtown section, returning to Labour Temple for a rally with an American deserter among the speakers, also religious leaders, a trade union leader, singing, etc.

The march is co-sponsored by
Regina Voice of Women

Regina Committee of American Deserters
Regina Campus Ad Hoc Committee

DON'T BE MISLED BY PRESIDENT NIXON'S PECENT SPEECHES ABOUT WITHDRAWING TROOPS! HERE ARE THE OFFICIAL PENTAGON FIGURES FOR THE NUMBER OF TROOPS IN VIETNAM FOR THE LAST 6 WEEKS:
(courtesy of I. F. Stone's weekly, Oct. 20, 1969)

AUG. 31	509,800
SEPT. 4	505,600
SEPT. 11	508,000
SEPT. 18	510,200
SEPT. 25	511,500
OCT. 2	509,600

Net withdrawal in six weeks. 200

At this rate the Nixon administration would withdraw 1,732 men every 12 months and be out of Vietnam in 294 years.

SOCIALISTS WORK IN NDP

By MARTHA TRACEY
and LIZ KALMAKOFF

Strong support for the Watkins Manifesto, "For an Independent Socialist Canada", came from half to one third of the Saskatchewan delegates at the recent NDP Federal Convention, October 28-31 in Winnipeg.

The document, For an Independent Socialist Canada, was prepared by a group led by Prof. Melville Watkins for presentation at the recent policy convention of the NDP.

It was passed in principle by several constituency organizations across the country, as well as by the Saskatchewan Provincial Council prior to the Convention.

The report argues that the NDP must become a truly Socialist party, dedicated

to fundamental social change. It sees the major issue in Canada as national survival, rather than national unity.

Through the medium of multi-national corporations, it argues, Canada has become a mere resource base and consumer market for the United States.

Mr. Lloyd said that support for the Watkins proposal came from the West. Westerners are more aware of corporate exploitation by outsiders, whether from eastern Canada or from the United States.

The Watkins group believes that nationalism alone will not solve Canada's problems.

Canadian corporations, they maintain, operate as junior partners in the Amer-

ican system. Regional disparities are rooted in the profit orientation of capitalism, whether Canadian or foreign.

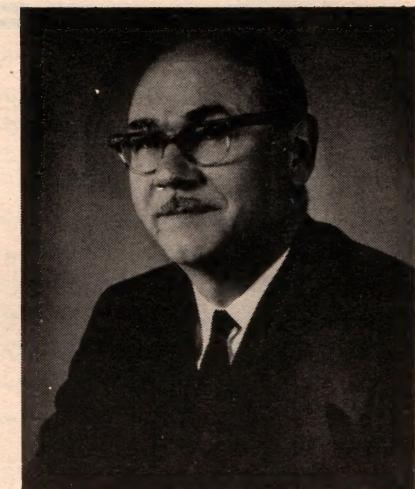
Investment is concentrated in a few areas, while the rest of the country sinks into underdevelopment. The document calls for a redistribution of power --not just welfare -- in all areas

A counter-statement was hastily prepared by the Party's Federal Council to offset the Watkins proposal. Debate at the convention centered on which statement should be adopted. The Federal Council statement, a watered-down version of the Watkins manifesto, was passed by a vote of 499-268.

Opposition leader Woodrow Lloyd voted for the Watkins manifesto because "I like the spirit and emphasis of the document--particularly the emphasis on the danger to Canadian independence.

Mrs. Carol Gudmondson, an active National Farm Union member, also supported the manifesto. "I thought it would make the NDP turn more towards Socialism," she said.

She claims that farm people like the statement because it points out what is happening to them. "American corporations and conglomerates are moving in at a frightening rate. We have no control over what we get for



WOODROW LLOYD

our produce; they simply tell us what price we can get."

Walter Smishek, MLA for Regina North-East and a delegate from RWDSU Regina Local 539, refuted the charge that the Watkins manifesto is hysterical anti-Americanism.

For the average Canadian "foreign domination means that, while our wages remain at a level 25% to 30% below those across the border, the prices of goods we buy are as high in Canada as the States --often they're higher."

Approximately ten supporters of the manifesto, including Professor Watkins, were elected to the Party's Federal Council on a strong independence and socialism slate. The group plans a conference for next spring to map out further action.

MR. GILES HAS SUITS FOR SALE

Clayton Hotel
Room 203
Broad Street
Second floor

Dear Sir:
How are you?
I got problems on my mind.

In my possession, as I write this, I have five suits, maybe, in five different colours. The suits are size 40-42 and blue, grey and brown.

I've got one overcoat which is blue, a red sweater and there could be more.

I wish to get rid of them for a small amount of money, or I will trade for groceries. I am on welfare and I am 63 years old.

I will take your paper for a month, if you help me sell my suits.

Also, there is room where I live. Some may want suites, hot and cold water, private baths in the room-bus at the door, lots of stores handy, near the park. See manager - Rm. 302.

I read about old timers

of Regina in The Prairie Fire. Maybe some of these old timers could get in this place. Light Housekeeping rooms, \$30 per month and up. Business people wouldn't be interested, I don't think. There are 29 rooms in a quiet, central place, radio, T.V.

I have no phone, but I get mail at the address given.

Regina is not new to me. No sir, for I was in and out since 1945. I helped build the East wing of the CPR depot and also helped move houses from the site so they could build The Saskatchewan Hotel.

P.S. No drinking allowed in this place. Let me know about the clothes. I remain. Yours truly, C.J. Giles.

I am as healthy as can be- I have arthritis in my knees- When I talk, I talk with a wheeze, - My pulse is weak and my blood is thin- But awful well for the shape I'm in.

quite sufficient, however, too many people in this city who refuse to see the necessity of welfare (and the need for increased welfare benefits) and who can afford adequate housing, would consider his living conditions essentially inadequate.

Mr. Giles' major complaint about his abode was that young people, particularly young girls, from the surrounding area often came into the hotel and disturbed the tenants with their various activities.

C.J. Giles receives \$88. per month from welfare. When he is 65, he will receive \$109 pension and his welfare cheque will be cut off. of the \$88 he receives at present, \$40 goes to rent, this leaves Mr. Giles with \$48 on which to survive for one month.

The room in the Clayton Hotel which this man is living in is approximately 15' by 10' and he takes pride in the fact that he has a refrigerator, which takes up a fair amount of space. To him, the room appears to be

CRIMINALS CODDLED - COOKSON

Everyone accused of a crime should have to take the witness stand, even if it means giving evidence against himself, Police Chief A.G. Cookson said in a PRAIRIE FIRE interview.

The present legal position is that no one should be forced to give evidence against himself, but rather, the responsibility is with the prosecution to prove guilt.

"There is too much coddling of the criminal and too little attention paid to the victim," Chief Cookson said.

As it is now, he said, too often the courtroom is turned into a contest between lawyers and not a search for the truth.

Chief Cookson said that requiring an accused person to testify might possibly result in more convictions, but the important point "is that we are seeking the truth in the matter and this would help.

"On top of all this, we are living in a permissive society, and social permis-

siveness goes along with social lawlessness. Almost everything goes now."

Two signs of this social lawlessness are the widespread distribution of pornographic literature to young people and the increased use of soft drugs among high school and university students and the "criminal element."

Chief Cookson said that although he is not convinced that the soft drug marijuana should remain listed as a narcotic under federal legislation, he doesn't think it should be legalized.

Asked if he thought the Regina police force was excessively rough in its general handling of civilians suspected of crimes, the Chief said he had no evidence that this was so.

"We have very strict regulations about this, supplemented by directives and further supplemented periodically by word of mouth."

"If this kind of action is going on we won't tolerate it, and will get rid of it immediately," Chief Cookson said.

U.S. AGGRESSION

After years of blindly accepting and supporting the foreign policies set by politicians and others in Washington, the American people are beginning to realize that government policies are designed neither to benefit the American population or the nations directly affected by American foreign policy.

Until recently, the vast majority of Americans have succumbed to the propaganda that U.S. intervention in all parts of the world is designed to protect Western Democracy and the freedom, justice, and equality it supposedly represents. This intervention would also assist the people of "oppressed nations" to conquer the Communist beast and live the "good life" we "enjoy" in North America.

Finally, at least a large part of the U.S. population has recognized the government aims are not related to American security or to the liberation of any people. American interest in foreign nations is motivated by the profit desire of big business. Because the interests of big business are also the interests of Washington, this bias is incorporated into foreign policy under the guise of protecting democracy.

The result is that the U.S. invariably ends up supporting repressive governments, and, in some cases, actually fascist regimes. In return for military aid and vocal support, the officials of a particular country, who generally come to power through a military coup, allow American business to financially exploit the population.

U.S. policies ensure that the underdeveloped nations of the world will be exporters of wealth to the West.

The effect of this aim is to guarantee markets and raw materials sources outside of the U.S. borders. This policy is an economic necessity for the U.S., which has to have additional markets for its surplus manufactured goods and guaranteed inflows of cheap raw materials to foster the growth of its giant industrial complex.

Therefore, the underdeveloped world which supplies these services cannot be allowed to develop. The U.S. must ensure, by carefully manipulating investments, that it controls the growth of the underdeveloped world so that there is no obstacle to its exploitation. This is the crux of imperialism.

This pattern is repeated throughout Latin America, in Ethiopia, the Dominican Republic, Greece, the Middle East, Africa, Korea, and all of Southeast Asia. The most serious result today of economic exploitation exists in Vietnam. If any good has come out of this obscene war, it is that the noble, humanitarian mask of American foreign policy has been shattered beyond repair, and its imperialistic nature has been exposed. The Vietnam military adventure is arousing the American people to question the motives of their government. It is doubtful that Vietnam would be a divided nation in turmoil today were it not for American imperialism.

Colonial rule, there were 81 prisons in operation, but only two per cent of the children were receiving elementary education. Only one doctor had been trained in all of Laos.

By 1943, the French were spending five times more for the purchase of opium (which was sold at a large profit) than for the combined expenditures on education, libraries and hospitals.

Peasants were heavily taxed so that the French government would not have to financially support the colonial administration. Rice, the main food staple, was a major export, and the food supply for the people was greatly reduced. A large part of the present popula-

by the Vietnamese people. The underground struggle against Japanese rule was led by Ho Chi Minh, who had been active in the anti-French forces during the pre-war period. Ho's aim was to achieve Vietnamese independence by expelling the Japanese.

The U.S., and those French not under German control, co-operated with the independence movement in joint action against the Japanese. When the Japanese surrendered in 1945, Ho Chi Minh declared the independence of Vietnam with a declaration based on the American Declaration of Independence of 1776.

For the first time, all people of Vietnam were united and independent. Unfortunately, the French still desired to continue exploiting the territory. On March 6, 1946, they signed an agreement with Ho Chi Minh allowing independence within the French Union, but it was soon obvious that the French had no intentions of honoring the document. On Nov. 23, they attacked the port of Haiphong, and the people of Vietnam were forced to take up arms to defend their newly-established republic.

The French soon realized that they were confronting not a collection of angry peasants, but rather a well-organized army supported by all of the people of Vietnam. In an attempt to disguise their colonial purposes, The French, in 1950, granted "independence" to Vietnam and recalled the deposed Bao Dai to assume the role of emperor, completely ignoring Ho Chi Minh. Now that the French had established a puppet regime to legitimize their colonialism, the U.S. began to furnish arms and money to aid in destroying the Republic of Vietnam. The French redefined the struggle as a valiant fight to save the people of Bao Dai's "free Vietnam" from the Communist menace threatening all South East Asia. This could only be done by ignoring the fact that Bao Dai had no popular support.

The French aggression would have been quickly halted had not the U.S. assumed financial control of the French effort. Between 1950 and 1954, American taxpayers were paying for eighty per cent of the cost of the war, letting the French continue long after they would have been defeated if left to their own resources.



The enemy of the American government - the people of Vietnam.

Before considering that point, a brief outline of Vietnamese history will be helpful. The roots of the present conflict date back to 1858, when French troops invaded Southeast Asia. By 1884, they controlled Indochina, an area now known as Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. French interests were purely economic; Indochina is an area rich in rubber and rice. French control was brutal and peasant uprisings were common. No effort was made to elevate the position of the people. They were considered to be another resource to exploit.

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onial rule, there were 81 prisons in operation, but only two per cent of the children were receiving elementary education. Only one doctor had been trained in all of Laos.

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IN VIETNAM

by JAY MONTAGUE

American objectives, however, were not directed at re-establishing French rule in Vietnam, but rather at establishing American domination over the area. In a speech before a conference of state governors on Aug. 4, 1953, President Eisenhower frankly admitted that the U.S. was furnishing 400 million dollars to the French war because "we are voting for the cheapest way we can to prevent the occurrence of something that would be of the most terrible significance to...our power and ability to get certain things we need from the riches of the Indochinese territory and from Southeast Asia."

Vietnam has great strategic value. If the U.S. could win control over that nation, it would be able to dominate all of Southeast Asia.

This brings us back to the point that Vietnam would be united today were it not for American intervention.

The French were defeated in 1954 at Dienbienphu. At that time, the government of Ho Chi Minh controlled over three-quarters of the country. At the Geneva Conference of 1954, it was Ho's government that offered concessions in order to bring peace, even though Ho Chi Minh was the rightful president of Vietnam.

He agreed to a temporary division of his nation, and to reduce his control to the northern section. Elections were to be held in two years to unify the country under one leader.

Both the north and south zones were prohibited from making alliances with or receiving military aid from other countries. The French and North Vietnamese accepted the terms, the illegal Bao Dai regime did not, and the U.S. refused to sign, but pledged to support the Geneva agreements.

The conference had barely concluded, however, when both French and U.S. exhibited their contempt for international law.

The French announced they would continue to recognize the Bao Dai regime as the only government of Vietnam. Only two days after the conference ended, Secretary of State Dulles announced, in the face of the U.S. pledge to uphold the agreements, that the conference had "advanced the independent status of South Vietnam," and that the West must prevent



The tonnage of bombs dropped by American planes in Vietnam is in excess of the total tonnage dropped by all forces in World War II

the loss of North Vietnam from leading to the extension of Communism through Southeast Asia.

This was a clear indication that reunification would not be allowed to occur, because in the accompanying election the people would have elected overwhelmingly Ho Chi Minh as their leader.

Even Eisenhower admitted that probably 80% of the Vietnamese would vote for Ho in 1956.

Political democracy was not the intention then, nor is it now, of American policy in North Vietnam. Instead, the U.S. selected Ngo Dinh Diem as the new prime minister, and minister of defence of Vietnam.

Diem was completely an American choice. LOOK magazine (Jan. 28, 1964) said of Diem: "Secretary of State Dulles picked him, Senator Mike Mansfield endorsed him, Francis Cardinal Spellman praised him, Vice-President Richard Nixon liked him, and President Dwight D.E. Eisenhower O.K.'d him."

Everyone was consulted, everyone except the people of Vietnam. They would never have agreed to a wealthy aristocrat who had been absent from the country for several years, and who had been a member of the French colonial government.

The Vietnamese Army protested Diem's appointment to the presidency but backed down when Eisenhower threatened to cut off American military aid. Thus Diem was

established, and, lacking popular support, he chose to rule by terror.

Thousands of people were executed. Any person, regardless of his political affiliations, was in danger of being imprisoned and executed for the slightest indication of disagreement with the ruling regime.

Concentration camps were filled as quickly as they could be built. Urgently needed social reforms were non-existent. Construction materials were used to build villas, apartments and amusement centres for the small aristocracy, rather than to provide desperately needed housing and hospitals for the people.

The land reforms that occurred benefitted the landlords rather than the peasants. The entire span of Diem's regime was filled with corruption.

The aristocracy profited from U.S. dollars while the peasants' suffering increased.

People were forced at gun-point to leave their family land and move into "strategic hamlets," concentration camps designed to "protect" the peasants from Viet Cong propaganda. Anyone who resisted being forced off his land was considered a Viet Cong and executed.

The same conditions exist today, but with Thieu and Ky as the dictators in place of Diem, who was assassinated in 1963.

The result of Diem's repressive regime, with its

abundance of social injustice, was the development of resistance forces in the late 1950's. In Dec., 1960, the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam was born and found immediate support from the Vietnamese people.

Within two years, the NLF had won control of 80% of the countryside. They were able to win the support of the people because they responded to the needs of the people by initiating land reform programs in liberated areas, building schools, and developing banking and postal systems.

This recognition of the people gave the NLF immediate success and has increased its strength and control constantly.

By now the NLF has forced the Saigon government to retreat to a few main cities. Nearly all of the land outside the cities is controlled by the NLF.

The U.S. motivation stems entirely from economic and strategic desires. Big business reaps huge profits from the war, and the American military complex which has taken over the American government, has no concern for the people, except a desire to claim their support as a means of legitimizing the war.

Entire villages are destroyed in the search for a single Viet Cong; land is defoliated and searched to eliminate hiding places; villagers are burned to death with napalm.

Search and destroy missions involve indiscriminate killing of anyone in the area.

This is how the U.S. "protects" the people it is supposedly fighting for.

What is happening in Vietnam is a revolution of the people against a corrupt dictatorship. The dictatorship was established by the U.S. government and is in power today only because of American support.

America provided the need for a revolution, and can never hope to win the support of the Vietnamese, let alone win the war militarily.

"The Vietnamese are fighting on their own soil for their own freedom," says Felix Greene in his book on Vietnam.

"As the Americans showed in their own war of independence, power in defense of freedom is always greater than power mobilized on behalf of oppression."

The Vietnamese defeated the French and they will also defeat America.

women in the work force

The following article on women in the work force was written for The PRAIRIE FIRE by several Regina working women who are members of the Women's Liberation Group in the city. Any women who would like more information on women's liberation should phone 525-9973.

The work force is not a viable alternative to marriage.

Women discover jobs usually amount to nothing more than an extension of their roles as housewife, and super-servant.

In 1961 two-thirds of the working women in Canada were concentrated in just three occupational groups: clerical, service, and professional.

Within these categories a large number of women were concentrated in low status jobs. 40% were stenographers, typists, or clerk-typists. Half of the service group were waitresses, practical nurses, char-workers, cooks, hairdressers, and launderers. Almost half of the professional group were school teachers and a

third were nurses, according to changing patterns in women's employment.

Women's jobs are concentrated in non-unionized occupations which excludes them from many of the usual benefits. Unions pay lip service to such demands as equal pay with males for equal work done, day-care centres, and maternity leave.

Canadian Department of Labour statistics show that 27.7% of working women are of part-time status compared to 10.7% part-time working males.

The same department has proven statistically that the average income of women is at least half that of men having the same education.

While the total number of women working increases

rapidly, the largest percentage of these are married and have husbands who earn less than \$5,000 per year. These are not women working purely for personal satisfaction, but for the economic survival of their families.

Thus, a more realistic picture of women in the labour force is that of women being increasingly driven to seek employment in the lowest paid and least interesting and creative sector of the labour force.

Business leaders justify this "channelling" by saying women are irresponsible and unreliable.

They make these observations without considering the social and economic pressures which force many women to work under adverse working conditions.

The businessmen neglect to consider the effect upon women of having to work amidst the accusation of "deserting the home".

Women must realize that they are forced into positions of dependence by the controlling interest of the economy. They are denied control of their own lives. They are beginning to challenge existing conditions, often with significant results.

This summer in Pickton Ontario, women working in the Hanes Hosiery Company factory went on strike. They had been working long hours for low wages with no benefits.

Through organization they formed a union and their demands were met with massive community and media support.

This is an example of how labour can become a process where people have control over the conditions of their jobs and the things they produce, rather than a situation where corporate profits benefit only a few.

New potash firms will suffer most

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The alleged dumping, combined with a general oversupply of potash in North America, has depressed the price from over \$23 in 1965 to \$12 or \$11 this year.

The mines in New Mexico contain a lower-grade ore than those in Saskatchewan. Thus their costs are higher, and they want higher prices. Some of these companies were being forced out of business by competition from Saskatchewan potash.

The Treasury Department's Customs Bureau upheld the dumping charges. Then, in September, the U.S. Tariff Commission began hearings to determine if a duty should be imposed on potash coming in from Saskatchewan.

But tariffs were opposed by another Senator at the hearings, Charles Percy of Illinois. Percy noted that the competition, bringing cheaper fertilizer costs, was advantageous to American farmers.

New Mexico's two Senators --Joseph Montoya and Clinton Anderson -- testified at the tariff hearings that jobs were being lost in New Mexico because of the competition from American companies mining in Canada. They also insisted that these companies had broken U.S. law by

selling below the "fair" price.

The U.S. companies operating in Saskatchewan didn't want a tariff, because this would not allow them to compete with the U.S. companies mining in New Mexico. And the companies would not be getting any extra income from the higher price they would "have to" charge in order to pay the tariff. Instead, the government would get that money.

The New Mexican producers, on the other hand, needed some measure to force the price of Canadian potash up.

Thus a conflict brewed between American farmers, New Mexico producers and American-owned Saskatchewan producers. Thatcher's intended regulation of the whole industry on its behalf will settle the conflict --but to the corporations' advantage.

Farmers are only one of the groups left out of the settlement. Another group is the companies just now coming into production in Saskatchewan. All of these companies at least appear to be Canadian-owned.

Sylvite, owned by Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co., has partly Canadian, partly British and partly American ownership. Cominco is owned by the Canadian Pacific

Railway, a Canadian corporation. Noranda Mines is mostly Canadian but with substantial American ownership.

Cominco and Noranda began production this year. Hudson Bay's mine will come into full production by 1971. All three mines have quite a large capacity by industry standards.

With the floor price Thatcher will establish, these companies will not be able to compete with the established operators through lowering their prices to fertilizer-production outlets in the U.S. Moreover, they will begin operations at a time when the market in North America is already glutted with potash.

As well, these companies are worried that the production quotas they will be assigned may not allow them to sell enough potash to establish their new operations on a firm footing. And even if the quota take into consideration the capacities of their mines, they may not allow the companies to sell as much potash through their U.S. outlets as they are committed to sell.

Finally, the overall limitation on exports will further disadvantage the new firms because they must swing into high production quickly in order to satisfy their investors. The investment of the three companies together comes to over \$200 million.

The Canadian companies are also worried that New Mexican mines might step up their production once a floor price has been set. They could afford to do this since they would no longer

have to compete with Saskatchewan ore.

Thatcher insists that he has written and oral agreements from the New Mexican mines that they will not do this. Hudson Bay representatives have countered that all these companies testified under oath in the Tariff Commission hearings that they would increase production if competition from Saskatchewan were halted.

Thatcher has done for all the American companies what U.S. anti-trust laws would not have allowed them to do for themselves. He will enforce a stable, legally-binding division of the North American market among the existing companies, consulting them of course on the exact ratios.

Thatcher will also fix the price of potash so that none of the companies can be put out of business or threatened when other companies offer the consumer lower prices.

He will do all of this even though it entails an agreement with the New Mexico interests to cut back on Saskatchewan's exports to the U.S. The effects of this will directly counteract his claims that the arrangements will save jobs in the province.

But just because Thatcher can safely ignore U.S. anti-trust laws doesn't necessarily mean he can operate with complete impunity. Ottawa has become upset at his negotiations with a foreign government and his regulation of trade. Whether or not Ottawa puts a stop to Thatcher's plans remains to be seen.

DAY CARE CENTRE BATTLE WON

- by BARB CAMERON

The Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan agreed Friday to allow a Regina Campus group to use facilities on the campus for a day care centre.

The decision was made at a board meeting held in Regina on October 7.

The group at Regina Campus has been organized since August and has been attempting to set up a co-operatively run day care centre on the campus for use by students, faculty and employees of the university.

Attempts have been made by the group to obtain space since September but the university had not agreed to the project.

However the unused book-store room on the old College Ave. Campus was set aside for possible use by the day care centre if approval by the Board of Governors could be obtained.

The university will not be providing the facilities free of charge but will negotiate a rental fee with the Students Representative Council at Regina Campus.

The SRC agreed to offer to rent facilities from the administration when the Board of Governors turned

down a request for space by the group at the last board meeting held in Saskatoon.

The rental agreement between the SRC and the university administration has not yet been completed but organizers of the day care group hope to be able to use the facilities early next week.

This will end a month-long period in which students and faculty from the campus were forced to use temporary space in a cafeteria to house about 15 children attending the day care centre.

Organizers of the group told the Prairie Fire they felt the decision was made because of the favourable publicity the project received and because of the support given by faculty for the day care project.

Mrs. Maija Crane, one of the organizers of the centre told the Prairie Fire now that the centre will be housed in permanent quarters the program offered can be expanded and possibly more children accommodated.

She said supplies and equipment of all kinds are now needed by the centre as well as interested volunteers wishing to help with the children.

STRIKE CONTINUES AT ESTEVAN HOSPITAL

By Joan Nielsen

The strike of 95 non-professional full and part-time employees at the Estevan hospital is still on in full force.

Mr. L.P. Jacobson, President of Saskatchewan's division of the Canadian Union of Public Employees and General vice-president of the National Organization, said "spirit is high and we are prepared to fight to the bitter end."

Health Minister Grant's latest statement was that the Provincial Government doesn't want to get involved.

The government also does not intend going further than the 6% increase in this year's operational budget, he said.

Hospitals in Prince Albert and Humboldt, having already taken almost unanimous strike votes, are impatient and want a settlement in the Estevan strike. They are prepared to go on strike at any time.

Approximately 13 hospitals in Saskatchewan are also patiently awaiting a decision on the Estevan strike

The executive of the Weyburn hospital union are instructed to call a strike vote.

L.J. Jacobson feels that Ross Thatcher's threats to invoke the Essential Services Act still exist.

"If Thatcher has a bad night, he'll probably invoke the Bill, forcing the strikers back to work," he said.

Jacobson further stated; "Presently the highest paid union member receives \$385 per month. If he were on Social Aid, having 5 dependents, he would receive \$405 per month."

If the bill is invoked, a compulsory arbitration board will consist of a hospital nominee, a union nominee, and a third member chosen by the first two members.

The third member must be a judge from a Saskatchewan court. If both parties can't agree upon the third member, the provincial labour minister has a free hand in picking him.

The only difference between the Conciliation Board and the Arbitration Board is that the present board's recommendations are binding on both parties.



(The EXILES column which appears in The PRAIRIE FIRE is written by former U.S. servicemen now living in Regina. They are members of the Regina Committee of American Deserters.)

I am a deserter from the U.S. Army. I am going to tell you how I was drafted, what my experiences were during my 14 months in the army, and why I deserted.

I was at the United Electronics Institute at Louisville, Kentucky, training as a computer programmer.

After completing the one-year course, I had to wait 4 months before being placed in a job.

During this time my draft notice came. I was troubled about what to do, but finally reported for induction at Los Angeles.

After I was inducted and sworn-in, I was sent to Fort Washington for basic training.

After arriving we were crowded bag-and-baggage into a parking lot. The first words I heard were: "You men are here to be trained to kill, and defend your country from any opposing enemy."

Basic training was an experience I'll never forget. I was brought up in a well-disciplined boarding school, but the form of discipline I received in my first 2 days in the army was more like punishment.

First came physical exercise, then marches, and then target practice, grenades, and bayonet training where you had to shoot KILL KILL KILL! as you plunged the bayonet into the chest of a simulated human-being.

In the last week, we were sent for introduction training in "Vietnam Village." Then we graduated from "basic" and were sent for more thorough training in the art of killing, the use of subversive tactics and war strategy.

At this time, I finally came to the conclusion I couldn't kill a person. I refused to have a killer instinct pounded into my head so I went A.W.O.L. I was caught and brought back to finish my training as a demolitionist.

We were taught how to blow up bridges, houses, and

tunnels and how to make an explosive from scratch.

I figured that at the end of all this I would be sent to Vietnam to put my training into practice. I wanted to run, but I didn't know where to go or what to do.

Our next stop was Fort Carson, Colorado, where we waited to be shipped to Japan, where my future unit was stationed.

At Fort Carson, I learned that my unit was going to Vietnam.

After arriving in Okinawa where my unit was already preparing to leave, I refused to go. The Brass figured I was kidding. When they finally realized I was serious, they prepared to court-martial me.

At that time I began to think seriously about the war and concluded the Vietnamese people were innocent and not our enemy.

I was separated from my unit and sent back to Fort Hood, Texas. Knowing that I faced a long sentence, I decided to leave again.

I went to work and tried to live in the best way possible, but I still could not find answers to the many questions on my mind.

I then decided that I wanted to find out why I, and many others, were being sent to kill people who were not trying to harm us.

I made several trips to Canada during a two-year period. I loved it here. It was easy to lead a normal life here.

However, my friends were all back in the States, and when I was back visiting them I was arrested by the police. I was sent to Fort Carson to stand trial again. I broke out and returned to Canada.

Now I live in Regina and I'm beginning to find some of the answers I've been looking for.

I work 8 hours a day and I intend to stay here, working to keep Canada free from the domination of a military-oriented society.

Canadian Football:Fourth Down?

At Grey Cup season, our readers might like to know how Canadian professional football really operates.

Although a team from McGill University introduced football to the U.S. almost 100 years ago, the Canadian pro game will probably be dead within a half dozen years.

This is the argument of Bruce Kidd in the recent *Canadian Dimension* magazine. The main threat to the game is the commercial organization of football, which makes Canadian football largely dependent on the American industry for its players and coaches.

Kidd describes the coming death of Canadian pro football as follows:

Since they are completely dependent on the U.S. for their best players, the nine Canadian professional teams continually scour the various college and pro leagues there for possible prospects.

Each team usually decides what position it needs to fill for the forthcoming season and scouts accordingly. Most of the Americans playing in the CFL come to Canada as a last resort, on-

ly after they have been unable to gain employment in one of the two American professional leagues, where salaries and prestige are considerably higher.

As a result, the Canadian clubs have been forced to develop a scouting system that can evaluate the marginal player, the player who couldn't make it as a professional in the U.S. but might shine in the less competitive Canadian league.

The revolving roster can also be the consequence of a Canadian team's success. Very few Americans who come to Canada to play football ever entirely relinquish the ambition to play professionally in the U.S., and some of them acquire enough extra experience in the CFL to try again.

Joe Kapp of Vancouver, Peter Liske of Calgary, Bo Scott of Ottawa, were all players who could not make the U.S. professional leagues upon college graduation, but who were able to do so after spectacular careers in Canada.

During the past 10 years, business has grown slowly in the CFL, although this season has been the most profi-

table on record. The question now is how long the distinctly Canadian league can last.

The beginning of the end should have been apparent to all in 1965, when the best Canadian college player at the time, Jim Young of Queen's University, announced he would seek a position in the National Football League in the U.S.

According to a recent *Globe and Mail* survey of American colleges, 150 Canadian boys are playing collegiate football in the U.S. The spiritual end of the CFL will probably come with the next expansion of either of the two American professional leagues.

Both Montreal and Toronto could support an American franchise. There are sports interests in both cities who would jump at the opportunity.

(Already the owners of the Montreal Expos baseball team have announced their intention of seeking an NFL franchise.)

It's unlikely the existing CFL teams in Montreal or Toronto could withstand box office competition from an American team (who would prefer to see a third-rate team of American players when one could see the best?), and with the Alouettes and Argos gone, the Eastern CFL would fold.

With the national sports

press on the American bandwagon, the collapse of the western CFL would only be a matter of time. Rumour has it that the federal government through the U.S. State Department, has asked the American professional leagues not to expand to Canada, but even if this is true, moral persuasion of this kind has rarely proved effective.

My guess is that Canadian professional football as we know it today will be laid to rest by 1975.

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(The PRAIRIE FIRE will accept classified ads from anyone in the city. The cost is \$1 per column inch--minimum charge, \$1. Call our office at 527-8340 on Thursday or Friday afternoons to get an ad placed in the following week's paper.)

community calendar

TUESDAY, NOV. 11

Film maker and founder of the National Film Board, John Grierson presents a talk entitled "Where Next". 8:00p.m. in the Campion Auditorium (Univ. Main Campus)

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 12

Central Library noon hour films: "Canadians Can Dance" and "The Chairmaker and the Boys".

Program of Chamber Music at 8:30p.m. Norman McKenzie Art Gallery.

General meeting of Regina Archaeological Society, 8:00 p.m., 2134 Winnipeg St.

THURSDAY, NOV. 13

Photo exhibition entitled "The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution". University, Main Campus.

Film entitled "Tunnel Warfare". 8:00p.m., Old Campus, Room R-210. Admission 50¢.

FRIDAY, NOV. 14

"The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution", photo-exhibit, Main Campus.

"Tunnel Warfare": a film in room C-2- University, New Campus, 8:00 p.m. Admission 50¢.

SATURDAY, NOV. 15

Children's programs at Libraries begin at 10:30a.m.

Photo exhibit moves to Old Campus.

Voice of Women is sponsoring a Torchlight Parade in protest of the Vietnam War. Meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Labour Temple.

NOVEMBER 5-13

Central Library has an exhibit of ethnic culture treasures and handicrafts.

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The PRAIRIE FIRE needs vendors who will get the paper to the people, at shopping centers, factories, office buildings, schools and door-to-door. Help us bring back the tradition of the corner newspaper boy. For each copy of the PRAIRIE FIRE you sell, you are entitled to keep a nickel. Come to 180 Angus Cresc., on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday afternoon to sign up and get your PRAIRIE FIREs or phone 527-8340.

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